

Spring 2-9-2001

# Maine Campus February 09 2001

Maine Campus Staff

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Pre-snow day  
fun.

5

Find salvation  
at the Jesus  
Theme Park.

7

Polish pianist per-  
forms passionate  
pieces perfectly.

10



# The Maine Campus

Vol. 118 No. 42

www.maine-campus.com

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2001

## Study links overcrowding, crime

By Amanda Hebert  
Assistant News Editor

It is common for teenagers to want their own space, but for some teens, finding room to breathe means leaving home and finding trouble. Steven Barkan, a sociology professor at the University of Maine, recently published a report linking overcrowded homes and adolescents' need for space with crime rates.

"Although older people are affected, it hurts children and adolescents the most," Barkan said.

His paper, "Household Crowding and Aggregate Crime Rates," published in the Journal of Crime and Justice, argues that household crowding is an often-overlooked part of high crime rates.

Barkan defined over-crowded homes as dwellings where there are more people than there are rooms, including kitchens and living rooms. When a member of the family needs to get away, there tends to be nowhere to go. Adolescents, who are just beginning to have the freedom to leave

their homes alone, spend time with their peers instead of under the supervision of their parents.

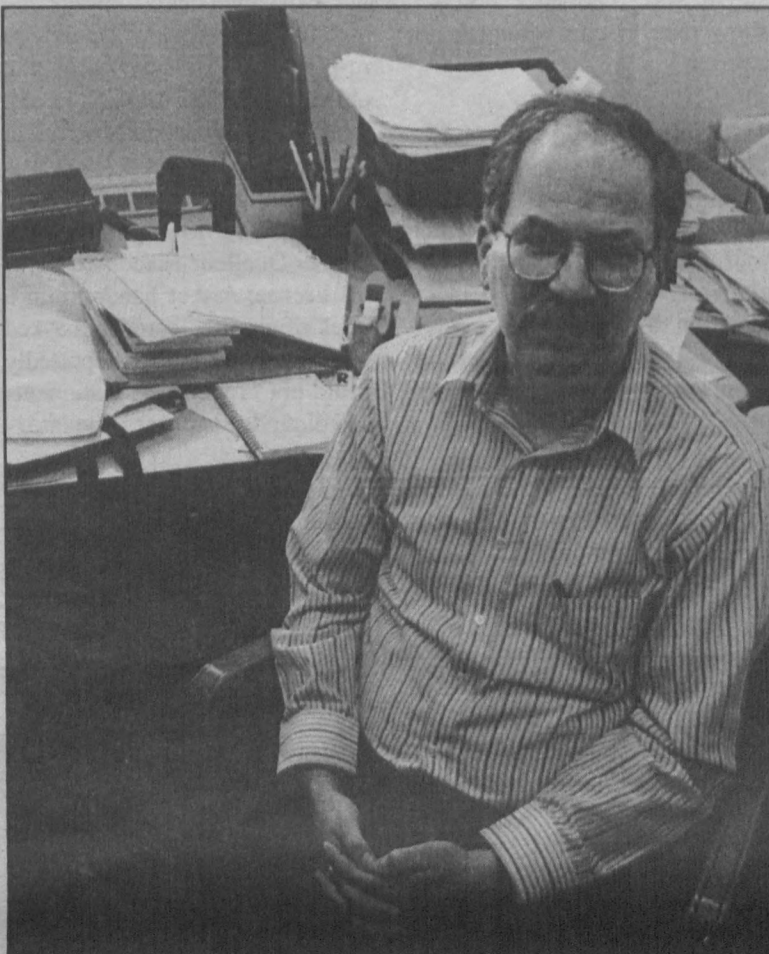
"When you live in a crowded household, adolescents need elbow room, so they leave the house to spend more time with their friends," he said. "More time with friends means more time for trouble."

Teenagers who spend less time at home also tend to do worse in school, another factor that leads to deviant behavior. He said the two factors often add up to both property damage and violent crime.

"[Overcrowding] had a strong relationship with all these types of behavior," Barkan said.

Another factor linking crime rates to crowding is the weak bond often found between parents and children in crowded situations. Barkan said the weaker the bond between parent and child, the more likely the child is to engage in deviant behavior. He said the increased stress on relationships in crowded homes contributes to the weak relationship.

See BARKAN on page 3



Steve Barkan, a sociology professor at UMaine, has recently published a study linking over-crowded homes and high crime rates. CAMPUS PHOTO BY JASON CANNIFF.

## Administrators add detail to Union plans

By Kelly Michaud  
News Editor

Administrators gathered yesterday afternoon to publicly address issues surrounding the Memorial Union project. This is the first time this semester all of the administrators involved in the various aspects of the project were on hand to field questions.

A group of campus community members asked the questions students have had on their minds since the project began, mainly when the Union will open.

"We can't wait to make the Union come alive," Dean of Students Dwight Rideout said. "We're looking forward to next fall."

When students step back on campus from summer break they should be walking into a completed Union.

The food area, which was scheduled to be open this semester, will not open until fall.

"We won't be receiving the [kitchen/food] equipment until June," Jon Lewis, director of Student Auxiliary Services, said.

Additional finishing touches have been implemented during the past week. The home cooked food area has been named the "Maine Street Diner" and the pasta venue, Tomassito's, has been labeled "the heart of the Maine Marketplace."

A part of the last minute details included scrapping one food venue, the Sweet Shop.

According to Lewis, the Sweet Shop was deleted from the plans due to fire marshal restrictions and changes which would be too costly in the long run.

"There is potential for one in the future but we can't look at that right now," Lewis said. "We have to focus on the marketplace."

For now, the area that was once slated to be the Sweet Shop will be a meeting area.

Another area of contention is the area designated for student organizations.

According to Rideout, 50 spaces have been set aside for student organizations. The spaces can hold a desk and chair and will most likely be outfitted with both phone and computer jacks.

But exactly who will be occupying those spaces has yet to be determined.

According to Rideout, a few years ago he sent letters to more than 200 organizations. Thirty-one groups expressed interest in

See UNION on page 2

## Contract negotiations remain stalled

By Kimberly Leonard  
Style Editor

Since April of 1999, the University of Maine professional staff have been working without a contract and working to resolve the situation. Since October, when the UMaine Professional

Staff Association protest stalled negotiations outside the Maine Center for the Arts during a speech by former Sen. George J. Mitchell, there have been eight mediation sessions with the Maine Labor Relations Board. All have proven futile.

"We have actually made some

progress toward a settlement, but every proposal is conditional on settling everything else in a package," head negotiator Bruce Littlefield said. "If we don't agree to a package in mediation, each party essentially returns to the positions presented to the fact finders for the next step."

In the event mediation fails to provide a compromise both parties are happy with, the next step is arbitration.

Arbitration is binding on the subject of contract language but only advisory on the issue of wages and benefits. In this case, the benefit in question is health insurance. An arbitrator would be chosen either through the Maine Labor Relations Board or the American Arbitration Association.

"We would still continue to negotiate if the arbitrator's recommendations are not accepted on these two issues," said Littlefield.

Additionally, UMPSA and The Associated Colt Staff of UMaine sent a letter to the Senate appropriation committee members questioning the usage of \$4 million appropriated from the Senate in the last session. The money was intended to bring university employee wages and salary increases closer to the increases negotiated by state workers and technical college employees. The money was also meant to settle

the outstanding contracts of UMPSA and ACSUM.

According to a document from the Office of Finance and Treasurer, \$750,000 went to previous commitments. According to Littlefield no one will say what those previous commitments were. Two point six million dollars went to paying 2.5 percent of the non-faculty salary, wage base and benefit costs. Another \$300,000 went for employee growth costs and to recover the extra cost of ACSUM and UMPSA employees remaining on the old health plan until their contracts are settled.

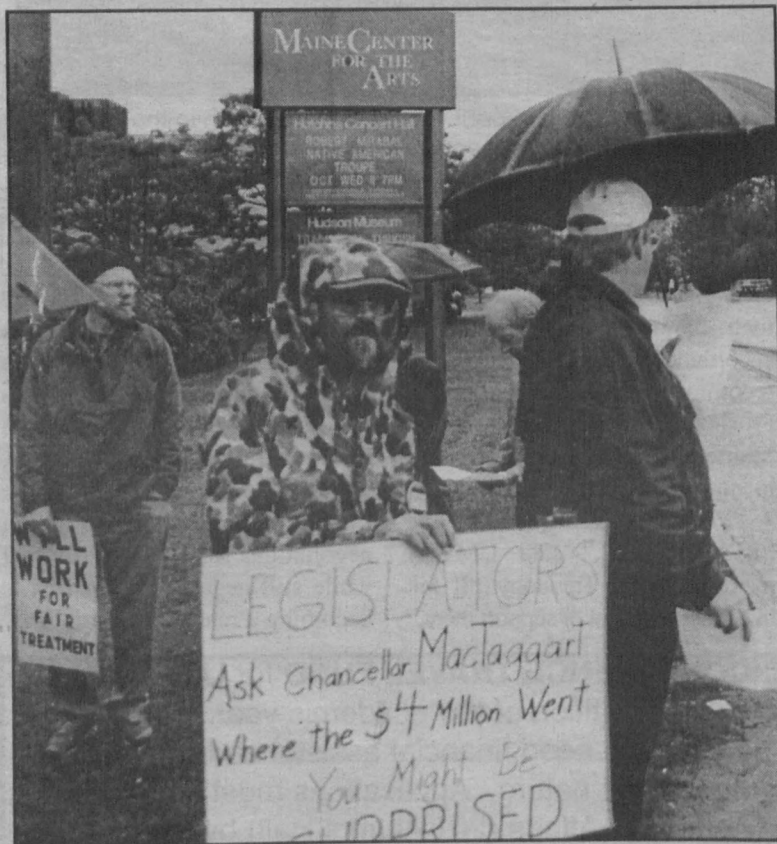
Additionally, \$150,000 was allotted to recover part of the additional cost of health insurance premiums not paid by employees. Another \$47,000 went to contribute 2.5 percent of overtime pay and \$433,000 went to contribute to 20 percent of "estimated benefit cost override." A sum of \$200,000 went to pay student wages.

Littlefield said he believes Chancellor McTaggart will be questioned about the moneys when the appropriations committee has a work session to address the issue.

According to Littlefield, one of the most frustrating facets of the issue has been the lack of compromise from UMS.

"In September, after the fact

See UMPSA on page 2



Members of the University of Maine System Professional Staff Association protest their long running contract dispute with UMaine at the George Mitchell dedication ceremony at last October. CAMPUS FILE PHOTO.



# Police Beat

By Nicole Brann  
Crime Reporter

Robert Lightbody, 18, was issued a summons on a charge of illegal possession of drug paraphernalia Sunday, Jan. 28.

Officer Mike Burgess, while on routine patrol in the Hilltop area observed a group of five people standing near the entrance of Deer Pens Rd. Burgess approached the group on foot and according to reports, as he walked toward them he saw someone light what appeared to be a marijuana pipe.

Upon speaking with the individuals, who reportedly all denied smoking, a blue and silver pipe was found about five feet from the group in a snow bank. Lightbody claimed ownership of the pipe and was issued a summons.

A debit card and \$400 in cash were taken from a wallet in the men's locker room in the Field House sometime Monday, Feb. 5 between 5:45 p.m. and 6 p.m. The man who reported the items stolen was reportedly taking a shower and left his belongings on a bench.

A staff member at Hilltop Commons reported seeing a woman with long blonde hair walk out of the commons with an aluminum chair and head in the direction of Oxford Hall.

The chair, which was on loan from a catalogue furniture company, is valued at \$377.

Anthony Arther, 21, was arrested on a charge of operating under the influence Sunday, Feb. 4.

A university security guard in the area of Penobscot Hall reported to Public Safety that at about 2:30 a.m. he observed a male who appeared to be intoxicated get into a black Chevy S10. The guard reportedly stated the male was carrying a beer.

Officer Rick Ouellette responded to the call and observed Arther driving in the Stodder lot. Arther failed to yield to the cruiser and as a result was stopped.

According to reports, when Officer Ouellette asked Arther for his license, Arther handed him a stack of assorted cards and asked him to find it. Arther reportedly could not produce the documents and did indeed appear to be intoxicated.

Field sobriety tests were administered and as a result Arther was arrested and taken to

Penobscot County Jail where he was given an intoxilyzer test. His blood alcohol content was .21.

Justin Burby, 20, was arrested on a charge of operating under the influence Sunday, Feb. 4 at 1:25 a.m.

Officer Jeff King observed a Pontiac Grand Am parked on the sidewalk of Libby Hall. King reportedly spoke with the driver and questioned him about why he was parked there. Burby reportedly told King that he was talking to his girlfriend who believed that he shouldn't be driving.

The girlfriend allegedly tried to convince King that Burby had not driven the car onto the sidewalk, but that someone else had

and they were just sitting in it.

Field sobriety tests were conducted and as a result Burby was arrested and taken to Penobscot County Jail where he was given an intoxilyzer test. His blood alcohol content was .10.

Purple paint brushed on trees and splattered on the back side of President's Hoff's house caused about \$200 worth of damage.

The damage reportedly occurred between the hours of 3 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 29 and 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 31.

Anyone with information concerning the incident should contact Public Safety at 581-4040.

## STEPHEN C. SMITH Attorney at Law

• Criminal Defense

• Personal Injury

P.O. Box 1957  
Bangor, ME 04402

Tel. (207) 941-2395  
Fax. (207) 941-9608

mainelawyer@hotmail.com

## Union

from page 1

office space. Since then, administrators have not been in contact with the groups. Rideout has asked Joe Mollo, director of Activities and Events, to contact

the organizations who expressed interest years ago.

If a group is interested in moving to the Union it should contact Joe Mollo.

# BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Volunteer.

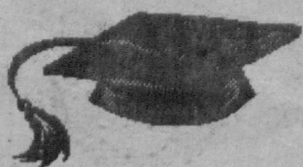
American Heart  
Association



CORRECTION: IN THE MONDAY FEBRUARY 7 ISSUE OF THE MAINE CAMPUS THE DATE FOR GRADUATION AD WAS **INCORRECT**. THE CORRECT DATE FOR GRADUATION IS **MAY 19**.

# May & August

If you plan to graduate  
**May 19, 2001**  
(or, are an August  
graduate attending the May  
Commencement Ceremony)  
and have not turned in an  
"Application for Degree" form,  
please stop by the Office of  
Student Records, Room 100  
Wingate Hall, immediately!



**Deadline: February 15**

## Parking lot chaos



Parking office employees Jason Lyle and Ray Leclair spent a lot of the afternoon in the cold ticketing and preventing cars from triple parking in a small section of the main parking lot closest to the MCA on Wednesday. CAMPUS PHOTO BY MARK LIPCZYNSKI.

## UMPSA

from page 1

finding, UMPSA basically said they would settle based on those recommendations even though they weren't exactly what we wanted... they [UMS] continually refused to settle," he said.

The UMaine Faculty Senate has even taken up UMPSA's cause. On Jan. 31 the Senate passed a resolution stating, "The Faculty Senate endorses an im-

mediate, fair and equitable settlement of the UMPSA contract in accordance with the fact finders' recommendations, and asks the President of the University of Maine to represent the university in support of such a settlement."

"I know I was so uplifted to see [the resolution]," said UMPSA member Sherry Trewogy. "It felt like there was a lot of support there."

The current negotiations are for a contract running from July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2001. Soon UMPSA will have to prepare to negotiate a contract agreement to run from July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2003. According to Littlefield, the likelihood of having to begin negotiations for a second contract while still negotiating the first is becoming a real possibility.

The **STUDENT ACADEMIC CONFERENCE TRAVEL FUND** for Undergraduate Students will hold its second competition of the academic year. This fund serves undergraduate students who need financial assistance for travel to meetings/conferences of an **academic** nature. Applications must be submitted to the Office of Academic Affairs (201 Alumni Hall) by **Monday, February 19, 2001**. Money will be awarded for travel taking place between February 20 and September 23, 2001. Applications may be obtained from JoanDay at the Office of Academic Affairs, 201 Alumni Hall, or by calling 1-1547.



## Israeli native discusses Mideast politics, violence

By Joe Gunn  
Campus Politics Reporter

A University of Maine history professor with firsthand experience in Israeli politics presented his views on the escalating Israeli violence and its causes in the Bangor Lounge yesterday.

Professor Alex Grab, an Israeli native, spoke as part of the ongoing Socialist and Marxist Studies lecture series.

Grab, who was born and raised in Tel Aviv, explained that he believes much of the blame for the last five months of violent outbreaks between Israelis and Palestinians falls on the Israeli government's attitudes towards the peace process.

"I am troubled by what I perceive as the arrogance of the Israeli government in regards of their attitudes towards the Palestinians in the occupied territories," Grab said.

Grab said the election of Ariel Sharon, leader of the right-wing Likud Party, as prime minister is an example of Israeli arrogance.

"[Sharon] himself has said that any peace agreements from this point forward will be interim," Grab said.

Grab is not alone in fearing the return of the hard-line Sharon to political prominence.

"It is the end of the Oslo peace process...the peace process is dead," he said.

The Oslo peace process began seven years ago between the Israeli government and the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO). Since that time the United States has been mediating talks between the two governments.

The Oslo agreements included provisions that were to be settled by last year. They included the return of Palestinian refugees to Israel and the future of Jerusalem. By 2000, Jewish settlements in the occupied territories would be reduced and the question of a Palestinian state was to be settled.

Grab outlined many obstacles that have faced the peace process since Oslo. He cited the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin in 1995, the treaty deadlines that were broken under Benjamin Netanyahu's leadership and what Grab views as the bad faith Prime Minister Ehud Barak demonstrated throughout his tenure in dealing with Israeli settlements in the occupied territories.

"While [Barak] was making agreements to withdraw settlers, he was continuing to actually settle more Jews in the occupied territories," Grab said. "Now, if you're a Palestinian and you see these Israelis being settled in nearby while [the negotiators] are saying that these people are being withdrawn, what are you going to think?"

Grab made it clear that the Israeli government is not alone in taking responsibility for the Intifadah, Arabic for "the uprising".

"The U.S., despite playing the role of mediator, is in fact is the biggest financial supporter of Israel."

He also cited the corruption of Arafat's staff in dealing with economic and social concerns of the poverty-stricken Gaza Strip as a cause for Arabs to join such terrorist groups as Hamas.

Grab said while he was grateful for the Zionist movement for an Israeli state, he believes a great injustice has been done to the Palestinian people.

"The Israeli people don't want to deal with the responsibility of the problem they created," he said. "The government has to live up to its agreements if the peace process is to succeed."

Grab's talk was sponsored by the socialist/Marxist interdisciplinary minor, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Union and the Maine Peace Action Committee. The Socialist and Marxist Luncheon Series is held every Thursday in the Bangor Lounge of the Union.

## America's math methods questionable

By Julia Hall  
For The Maine Campus

Whole math may be rotting kids' brains and causing math meltdown according to C. Bradley Thompson.

Thompson is a historian and the author of "Cognitive Child Abuse in our Math Classrooms," published by the Ayn Rand Institute.

American children have been scoring low on math exams in comparison with the rest of the world. While some feel that the mundane test scores are due to a lack of good training or a lack of accountability in schools, Thompson blames the reduction in good math grades on something called the "whole math approach."

Thompson describes whole math as a way of encouraging students to develop their own math strategies and use "guess and check" to find the answers to math problems.

Thompson said American universities award more than half of their mathematics Ph.D.s to foreign nationals, and American schoolchildren scored lower than children in Latvia and Bulgaria in their standardized math tests.

Stanley Farlow, a math professor at the University of Maine, disagrees with the idea that whole

math is diminishing students' capacities to reason.

"I don't think the way math is taught in American schools is the main reason American kids do so poorly in international math contests," Farlow said. "American kids have more things going on in their lives in our pop culture. I haven't seen too many students from around the world applying to grad schools in Latvia and Bulgaria."

Farlow said by the time students from around the world (including Americans) have received post-graduate degrees in mathematics, they are all pretty much on the same level. The fact that so many foreigners come to America for graduate school says something about the way we are teaching mathematics here.

Thompson said the whole math approach to teaching is harmful because it teaches students that there are no right or wrong answers, therefore they do not learn the basic skills they need in order to practice math well.

Thompson is not a mathematician. He holds no degree in mathematics. He is a history and political science professor at Ashland University in Ohio. He does, however, have strong opinions about how math is taught in classrooms across the country. Farlow finds Thompson's arguments less

than convincing.

"It would be interesting to ask professional mathematicians which approach they would have preferred as youngsters, and then ask historians like professor Thompson which they would have preferred," Farlow said.

Thompson calls whole math "cognitive child abuse."

"Rather than encouraging independent, conceptual-level thinking, it [whole math] is thoroughly anti-conceptual. It dooms children to function on a primitive, perceptual level."

Thompson said new math promotes such exercises as having children devise their own ways of solving a long division problem, counting out a million birdseeds in order to understand the concept "million" and asking children what color they think math should be.

"Imagine flying on a plane designed by aeronautical engineers who have been trained to concoct their own math schemes and to use a 'guess-and-check' method," Thompson said.

Whether whole math is really cognitive child abuse or not is left up to debate. Either American kids will be turned into "mindless drones" as Thompson predicts, or, as Jerry Farlow says, will be able to "compete very well" in the field of mathematics.

### Barkan

from page 1

"These households tend to be filled with more conflict and tension," Barkan said.

Weak parent-child relationship lead to problems when adolescents venture out of their homes and onto the streets.

"The stronger the bond is between parent and child the more likely the child will do what the parent says," he said.

Crowding puts stress on all relationships within the household, including sibling relationships.

ships. But Barkan did not need to pour over census and crime statistics from every county in the United States to find that out. He grew up sharing a room with his little brother.

"My younger brother and I fought all the time when we were little," he said.

Barkan used the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports for the crime statistics in his report. He correlated these with U.S. census figures on the number of people per room in American households. He said while he found a link between crowding rates and

crime rates, his study does not prove crowding equals crime.

"It doesn't prove it, but it supports it," he said.

Barkan controlled for the more often studied variables in crime rates, race and poverty, and said neither had a bearing on his results.

Barkan has been a professor at UMaine for 22 years, and has published a text book as well as other studies dealing with crime and criminology. He would like to expand on this study in the future, incorporating interviews with household statistics.

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The Maine Campus

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Barbara Gillman and Micheal Murphy display crab pasta developed by Gillman. Murphy will be spearheading a project to research and develop making lobster pasta using "Underutilized Lobster and Crab Mince." CAMPUS PHOTO BY MARK LIPCZYNSKI.

## Umaine creates Lobster Pasta

By Kimberly Leonard  
Style Editor

The Lobster Institute at the University of Maine has secured a \$10,000 grant for a project titled "Formulating Pasta from Underutilized Lobster and Crab Mince." The grant is from the Maine Technology Institute's Seed Grant Program and the grant will be matched by the UMaine Department of Industrial Cooperation.

The project began in Bob Bayer's Kitchen according to graduate student Barbara Gilman, when Bayer decided to experi-

ment with mixing crab meat and pasta. Bayer is the executive director of the Lobster Institute at UMaine.

Gilman is working to develop a gourmet pasta using crab meat that is not economically feasible to process. The underutilized meat is known as mince.

"The pastas will bring a value-added component to current seafood processing operations," Bayer said. "Lobster and crab legs and bodies are presently considered by-products of processing, and companies must pay to have them hauled away as waste. The de-boning process will allow for a more complete utilization of natural and commercial resources."

The meat also adds nutritional value to the pasta. According to Gilman, crab and lobster meats contain high quality proteins in the form of two amino acids,

which provide a more complete protein to the consumer.

The project is currently in its second stage. This phase will refine the procedure and the product. It will lead to a commercial prototype used for market testing. The first phase focused on testing mechanical separation procedures, the chemical and microbiological evaluation of mince and pasta ingredients ratios and variables.

According to Bayer, the project has the potential to affect all facets of the seafood business, from harvesting to processing. Bayer states that the new process and product will fit into the existing infrastructure of processing plants. It will also take advantage of processing by-products and create new jobs in the production and marketing of a product that is a natural fit with the economic base of Maine's fishing communities.

## Invasive plants arrive at UMaine

By Marc Acsh  
For The Maine Campus

Invasive plant species are species of plants that are foreign to an area and displace plants that are native. Invasive species of plants, such as those cultivated at the University of Maine, are a problem because the plants create a man-made and shallow ecosystem.

Locally, invasive species are abundant in the landscaping of the UMaine and include more than 50 shrubs such as the Japanese barberry, honeysuckle and burning bush according to Reeser Manley, a UMaine horticulture professor.

To be officially identified as an invasive species in Maine, a plant must not be indigenous to the state but have become naturalized to the environment. The species must also have some populations with high numbers already established and the potential for widespread establishment in natural areas, according to criteria set by the Invasive Species Counsel of Maine.

Such species also tend to have a competitive advantage over native species, which facilitate their rapid growth and help them crowd out native plants.

While non-profit organizations such as the Sierra Club and the Nature Conservancy have spent millions of dollars on the eradication of invasive species, Manley said their efforts have often been

futile. Americans continue to cultivate invasive species on their property, which then spread into surrounding wild lands. Manley said this is the case at UMaine, where invasive species are cultivated by Facilities Management and spread into the surrounding forest lands.

Manley said the invasive shrubs on campus have several characteristics that distinguish them and give them competitive advantage over native species. They all have their seeds dispersed by foraging birds, allowing for rapid colonization of natural areas. Natural predators do not exist for many species because predators were not imported with the plants.

He said another distinguishing characteristic of invasive species present at UMaine is their ability to maintain leaf production and photosynthesis in cold weather longer than their native counterparts. This allows them to shade out other would-be competitors early in the growing season. Manley said the Norway maple is one such plant which, once established, prevents all native undergrowth from flourishing.

A recent study at Drew University in New Jersey shows that Norway maple has the ability to out compete New England's indigenous sugar maple. Eventually, Norway maple may completely replace sugar maple in

See PLANTS on page 5

**She's a gang leader.**

**with a goal.**

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**February, 2001**

Wednesdays 1PM – 2PM Prayer & Meditation - Drummond Chapel @ Memorial Union

Thursdays @ 5:30PM "Soul Food" Fellowship Meals @ the Wilson Center (please call ahead to confirm a place)

**"Special Events & Programs" (Open to students, staff, faculty, and the public)**

Sundays @ 6PM

February 4 – Community Worship Service at the Wilson Center with Bill Friederich, Chaplain

February 11 – Hawk Henries, Native American flutist, flute builder and storyteller will present "Music for the Heart", a concert and time to share his spiritual path and gifts.

February 18 – "Contemporary Worship Service"

February 25 – Prof. Cliff Guthrie, Ph.D., Asst. Prof. Of Homiletics and Pastoral Studies with Bangor Theological Seminary will discuss "Hardwired for Religion".

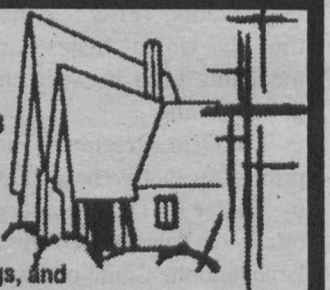
Tuesday, February 27 @ 7PM – "Fat Tuesday" Concert @ the Wilson Center with Paul Sullivan, Bill Friederich, John Wiebe, Cliff Guthrie, and friends.

Wednesday, February 28, 12 Noon – Ash Wednesday Service in Lown Room (Memorial Union), sponsored by the Wilson Center, the Newman Center, and the Canterbury House.

"We are a progressive Christian community gathered through worship, study, and service, committed to social justice, honoring diversity, offering opportunities for spiritual growth."

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**Sunday,  
February 11  
6:00PM**

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Center*

**Hawk Henries  
a concert  
presentation**

**"Music for the**

"Music clears the mind of mental chatter. It allows a person to relax--into a state of mind to see and feel a connection to your neighbor."

-Hawk Henries

"In my presentation, I like to use my instruments metaphorically. The flutes are different colors and different shapes, but each has a voice, and each voice is important. Just like people."

-Hawk Henries



## UMaine students head to Sugarloaf, fly through snow



UMaine skier Micheal Huberman lands a huge iron cross grab in the Terrain Park at Sugarloaf. CAMPUS PHOTO BY KARYN McMULLIN.



JD Crichton spins a 360. CAMPUS PHOTO BY KARYN McMULLIN.

MORE PHOTOS AT MAINECAMPUS.COM.

## Plants

from page 4

the forests of Maine. If this were to happen, it would mean an end to the maple syrup industry and also a great loss for tourism because Norway maple's fall foliage is dull compared to the famous flaming colors of the sugar maple.

Many members of the campus community are displeased by the

continuing presence of invasive species at UMaine.

"The problem is all of these plants are still being grown and sold by landscapers and planted by homeowners and institutions," Manley said. "I don't think that an educational institution should continue to foster invasive species. We should be setting an example by removing these problem species from our landscape."

Lois Stack, a Cooperative Extension professor, agrees with Manley.

"I believe these plants were planted before they were known to be invasive, but we need to reconsider our use of them now that we have firm scientific evidence that they are invasive," she said. "Being a land-grant institute, we should lead the state both in information and by example."

Invasive plant species are problematic because they become

an overwhelming presence in an area, forming a monoculture at the exclusion of native plant species.

Manley said the effects reverberate up the food chain. Native animals are not designed to forage on foreign plants, and the eating of native plants results in a dramatic loss of biodiversity in a region.

He said an example in the effects of the introduction of an exotic, invasive plant species can be found at an old beaver pond a quarter mile down the Penobscot River from UMaine. Where once native viburnums and other native plants might have grown is now choked with invasive honeysuckle.

Studies at Bennington College in Vermont and Drew University show that the case at this beaver pond is not unique and that honeysuckle is completely excluding all other shrubs and even trees.

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# EDITORIAL

## Graduating students should be reimbursed for Union fee

This spring semester, the University of Maine instituted half of the Memorial Union fee. Students were supposed to be charged the full \$3.50 per credit hour this semester but since the project progressed slower than expected, the fee was cut. Students were charged \$1.75 per credit hour under the promise that the building would reach beneficial occupancy by mid-March. Now well into February, the administration has guaranteed that no part of the new Union will open this semester. Again, the project has faced delays due to a shortage of subcontractors and changes in the building's plans.

Seniors who have registered for graduation in May 2001 will never see even a partially completed Union before they graduate. Most students have accepted this fact, but graduating seniors should be reimbursed for their contribution toward the Union fee.

Students have approached *The Maine Campus* asking if there will be a refund because of the unfulfilled promise. Now we are asking the finance administration, will they pay the students back?

In our opinion, seniors deserve to have the money they paid reimbursed. They were told they had to pay because they would be given a partially usable Union. Now that this is not the case and students won't be in before graduation, give the money back.

## State Rep. Michael reprimanded

It is comforting to know that the Maine House of Representatives voted Thursday to censure independent Auburn Rep. John Michael after the House Ethics Committee unanimously found his late January tirade professionally unacceptable.

The House voted 137-8 to censure Michael, who, in a Jan. 25 disagreement with Sens. Peggy Pendleton of Scarborough and Neria Douglass of Auburn, attacked them verbally, using obscenities – including "the F-word" – and other phrases deemed inappropriate.

Under the censure resolution, the committee found Michael's abusive behavior was part of a pattern of a behavior incompatible with his representative duties and that he never accepted responsibility for his action.

The disagreement between Michael and the senators was over which committee was to handle Michael's bills, and more specifically that Michael believed Pendleton had betrayed his trust.

Senate President Michael Michaud wanted a harsher censure resolution, one that would bar the rude representative from Senate floors for two whole years. House Speaker Michael V. Saxl had also asked Michael to leave voluntarily from his committee post. However, those clauses, especially that of Michaud, are agreeably too severe. The ethics committee rejected Michaud's request for that addition.

Much publicity has been made of this, and the Legislature knows that. It must move expeditiously with the proper reprimand, even unprecedented ones, and Michael must accept the consequences (he says he has repeatedly apologized). Upholding the law for the lawmakers is essential for the integrity of the representative and of the Legislature.

**Editorials are the opinions of and written by the editorial board, whose members are Stanley Dankoski, Brad Prescott, John Contreras, Kimberly Leonard, Penny Morton, Kelly Michaud, Amanda Hebert, Jason Canniff, Abel Gleason and Justin Bellows.**

## The Maine Campus

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1875

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## Letters to the Editor

### • Greek representation

When I picked up *The Maine Campus* on Wednesday, Feb. 7, I immediately noticed the headline "Student groups reminded of hazing policy." As a member of Alpha Phi and as VP Public Relations for National Panhellenic Council, I have had many opportunities as a Greek to discuss hazing and its negative effects. While the article made many valid points, I found it disturbing that the only hazing referred to was that of Greek organizations. Throughout my involvement in the Greek system, I have noticed that whenever hazing comes up, the offenders mentioned are fraternities and sororities. I find it disturbing that other group hazing is rarely discussed. Many other organizations and athletic groups haze, despite fierce laws and policies against it. In the article, athletic hazing is mentioned in passing, while Greek hazing is elaborated on by Dr. Robert Dana, E.J. Roach, and Dan Chadbourne. No other student group is questioned.

This is an unfair portrait of Greek life on this campus. It seems that no matter how much we as a Greek system attempt to positively impact this campus, negative stereotypes make front page news. As a Greek, I am disappointed in *The Maine Campus* for such a stereotypical view of Greeks. The negative stereotypes brought about by movies like "Animal House" far overshadow anything positive that Greek organizations

do on campus. Our New Member Seminars and upcoming Greek Leadership Conference are examples of how we are attempting to combat hazing as a Greek system through education. For once it would be nice to open *The Maine Campus* and see Greek Life being accurately portrayed as the positive experience that those in the Greek system unanimously agree it is. Being Greek on this campus is an experience that I will forever cherish; I'm sure my fellow Greeks agree.

Andrea Nicoletta  
Androscoggin Hall

### • Conservatism

Upon reading the Feb. 7th edition of *The Maine Campus*, I came across Kris Healey's article, "America needs to adapt to new administration." The title alone turned my stomach which couldn't have come at a more inopportune time since I was about to ingest lunch. Now, I realize most people aren't as conservative-minded as our friend Kris, but the fact there are people out there like that give me chills. Who is it that said something like 'a young man who isn't liberal has no heart and an old man who isn't conservative has no brain?' That's what Mr. Healey's article brought to mind: the mental image of a crotchety old man.

First off, let's discuss John Ashcroft. Should this man be in politics? Absolutely. Should he be our Attorney General? No way in hell. Even the idea of him possibly being

opposed to particular movements in the way of civil rights is proof enough that this man should not have been appointed. There should be no doubt of his ability. He has experience, yes. Actually, he's very qualified for the job, but his past is a shady one and that should have been the deciding factor. Instead, he was approved because, in my opinion, he told the review board what they wanted to hear and did not reflect his heart of hearts.

The next order of business is his lovely quote of Brian Williams, "Americans have the attention span of a gnat." Well, Brian Williams has the tact of a gnat. Anyone who quotes a talking head from the ultra-conservative machine that is MSNBC needs to have their head examined, with no disrespect meant to said Mr. Healey.

The bottom line is this: Bush did not win the election. He was appointed by the Electoral College/Supreme Court. Whether Clinton only got 42% of the popular vote back in 1992 has nothing to do with 2001. His article very much had the tone of "liberals should just give up because you lost...deal." Since Bush did not win the popular vote it is in the interest of the American people to write their liberal senators and congressmen and let them know that they have our support. Ask them not to give in to pressures from the conservative cats on Capitol Hill. They'll listen.

Derek Francis

friends  
don't let friends  
drive drunk



# OPINION

## Jesus becomes a theme park

Religion is a tricky subject. It is hard to discuss without the threat of offending someone looming over your head. Today, however, I have decided not to worry about that and talk about something I saw on the news that really bothered me: the Jesus Theme Park.

Yes, that's right, a man named Marc Rosenthol has built a 15-acre Jesus Theme Park in Orlando, Florida. Needless to say, he has caused a lot of controversy.

The first problem I have is that Rosenthol is making money on something he is trying to pass off as a religious experience. It's always been my opinion that it is sleazy to be making money off of what many people consider the word of God. Have you ever seen a TV evangelist claim to be spiritually cleansing millions of people out of the goodness of their hearts while in reality they were raking in the money? Those people are considered con artists, and when their scam is revealed the public looks upon them with disgust because they took advantage of someone's trust and faith.

What Rosenthol is doing is no different than what those corrupt evangelists were doing;

he has just packaged his scam a little differently. Instead of selling religion through an infomercial, he is using an amusement park. People who are searching for religious awakening will pay money to see what this man has created: a



**Julia Hall**

Maine Campus  
Columnist

theme park depicting the life and times of Jesus Christ. Rosenthol makes it seem as though he is guiding and leading people through a religious experience. In reality, he is just making money off people who are looking for faith.

Rosenthol has found a lot of discrepancy within the Jewish community regarding his theme park. The Jewish community is upset at his depiction of Jesus because they believe he is trying to get other Jews to convert to Christianity. Rosenthol's park is supposed to be a replica of the Jerusalem before, during and after the life of Jesus. So naturally, the park is mostly of Jewish themes because Jesus was Jewish.

Rosenthol says he is not try-

ing to convert anyone; he is simply giving Christians a place where they can see and experience the community of Jesus. Hard to believe, considering that Rosenthol is himself a Jewish man who converted to Christianity not long ago. Of course he would try to use this theme park to influence people to think the way he does.

Lately it seems that everyone is using religion to try to make a buck. There have been so many made-for-television movies, cartoons, books and now this theme park, all of which are packaged and dramatized to appeal to the modern audience. It's ridiculous that a Hollywood director or amusement park mogul has the nerve to take on the role of spiritual leader. People should be able to find their own religion and spirituality without being influenced by cheap old men trying to profit on their willingness to "find God." I think religion is an important thing, but it is not something corporate America should be forcing down our throats.

If you are in fact searching for your own religion, don't think that you will find it at the Jesus Theme Park. All it will do for you is empty your wallet.

*Julia Hall is a first-year journalism major.*

## What is your favorite store?

A short while ago someone asked me what my favorite store was. It sounds like a simple and easy question and appears that an answer could be easily given. I pondered for a few minutes, trying to decide what

store made the cut to be labeled "Nate's Favorite store."

After thinking for a while and reflecting on my past, I concluded on a final store that met my needs well enough to be labeled "My Favorite Store." There is only one store you can buy a canoe or backpack at three in the morning if you have a burst of spontaneity. There are few, if any, stores that have live fish and the tools necessary to kill them in the same area. In no other store have I found such a variety of sizes of the soon to be popular, "show-in-a-bag." L.L. Bean is the answer. L.L. Bean is the Mecca of any clothing or sporting accessory store.

My first encounter with L.L. Bean occurred when I was about ten years old. I got an L.L. Bean backpack for my birthday. Being an irresponsible juvenile I promptly ruined the bag. My mother made me a tuna fish sandwich for lunch, and since I hated tuna fish, I left the sandwich in my bag for quite some time. When I finally discovered the sandwich, it was practically stirring itself. I blamed the pungent odor on my shoes (that were later wrongfully thrown out). I didn't want my mother to find out what happened to the bag so, I ditched it in the woods by my house.

Later that week, enjoying the first part of my summer vacation freedom, I met up with my friend Jeff. We were walking in the woods doing "guy stuff" – otherwise known as trying to shoot stuff with a BB gun – and we came across my L.L. Bean backpack. We quickly saw that an ani-

mal had ripped the bag into shreds to get to the over-ripe tuna sandwich. Jeff remarked, "Holy crap, was that your backpack?"

Sadly, I assured him that it was. Then he told me something that turned me from sad to

happy in the blink of an eye. "You can take it back to L.L. Bean, you know ... They have a lifetime return policy, and you don't even need a receipt!"

We later took a stick and held the backpack as far away from us as possible and made our way back to my house. When no one was looking, we hosed it off the best we could in my backyard. I kept it hidden in my garage until about a month later when I took it to L.L. Bean as I accompanied Jeff and his dad. The entire ride, from the minute I got in the car, until we reached L.L. Bean, Jeff's father kept awkwardly peering over at me. "Did you do that?"

"Umm.. Excuse me!" I said trying to cover the trash bag the knapsack was in.

When we entered the store, we immediately ran to the return center and I threw the bag on the counter. I was pretty nervous, so I didn't say much as the teller looked at me. After looking at my backpack, with a gag she exclaimed, "Wow, it is ripped to pieces and it smells absolutely horrid!"

I couldn't think of anything to say on the spot, so I looked at her, completely red-faced and said, "huh ... weird ..."

To sum up a long story, L.L. Bean gave me a new backpack in place of my ripped, tuna-saturated one. They even re-monogrammed it for me to say "Wide Load" again, free of charge. What a store. Thank you, L.L. Bean.

*Nate Drinkwater is a first-year communications major.*

## Valentine's Day is approaching– it's just about time to dump my girlfriend

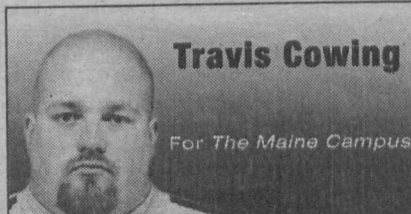
Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Some people buy lavish gifts for that special someone in their lives; for others, a sweet card will suffice. Or you can do what I used to: every year on the fifth of February I break up with my girlfriend for no reason. Then I ask her back out around the 23rd or 24th, narrowly avoiding Valentine's Day and the hassle it brings (I save faking my own death for Christmas).

Traditionally, Valentine's Day has been celebrated by couples in love. Meaning, you only bought a gift or a card if you were in a relationship with someone. Well, I'm here to tell you that you can give any old person a valentine.

For instance, my grandmother gives me a valentine every year. That's pretty weird considering it's been almost three years since we've had sex. And I give Gramp a valentine, too. I also send him chocolates but he's not allowed to have those in the state pen., so the guards usually get them.

And fellas, don't be afraid to send valentines to the girls

who want nothing to do with you. Who cares if she thinks you're "sketchy" or "creepy." Forget about that restraining order she has on you ... send a



**Travis Cowing**

For The Maine Campus

card anyway. Maybe you could even write a few thoughtful words like, "I'm watching you" or "I'm gonna get you." It's verses like those that will make her heart melt.

Don't be afraid to reach out of your league, either. When I was a kid I had my eye on little Alyson Jones. She was a hottie and all the boys wanted her. But I was the only kid in first grade who dared to give her a valentine telling her how I really felt. Actually, I wrote asking her if she'd give me a piece on the slide during recess.

My point is that I was fat and pathetic (pretty much a smaller version of what I am now), but I still had the balls to give her a valentine. In case you are wondering what her

response was: "No, Travis, you're too fat ... it looks like you ate cupid. Ha ha ha." But hey, don't feel bad for me. Shortly after, Alyson was killed in an "accident" during nap-time.

And guys, send your best male friend a valentine. You don't have to be gay to send your pal a card. Maybe you just want to tell him how good of a friend he is or how much you enjoy his company. Or if you think he has a sweet, rotund, supple ass then tell him that too. It can't hurt. And girls, do the same. If your best girlfriend has nice firm breasts then tell her; it's fine. Not to mention, a card like this could open the door for some lesbian sex when you're both drunk some night.

Well I hope I've opened your eyes to the real meaning of Valentine's Day. I think it's time for you to buy some cards and candy. So you go ahead and do that ... I've got to go dump my girlfriend.

*Travis Cowing only eats the "Lover Boy" candy hearts.*

## EDITORIAL POLICY

The editorial pages of The Maine Campus are for the free exchange of ideas among members of the university community. Letters to the editor should be no longer than 300 words. Guest columns should be approximately 600 words. Submissions should be e-mailed or typed, double-spaced and must include full name, address and phone number. All submissions can be sent to the opinion editor at: [James.Prescott@umit.maine.edu](mailto:James.Prescott@umit.maine.edu). Anonymous letters will not be published without a compelling reason.



# Entertainment

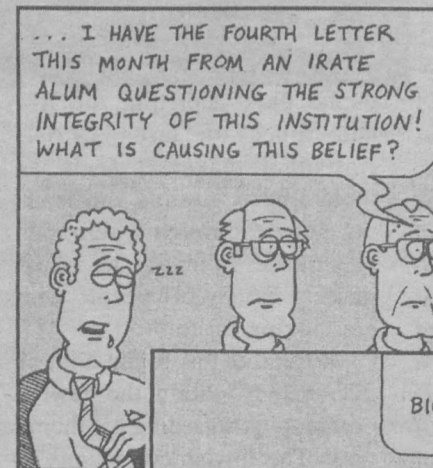
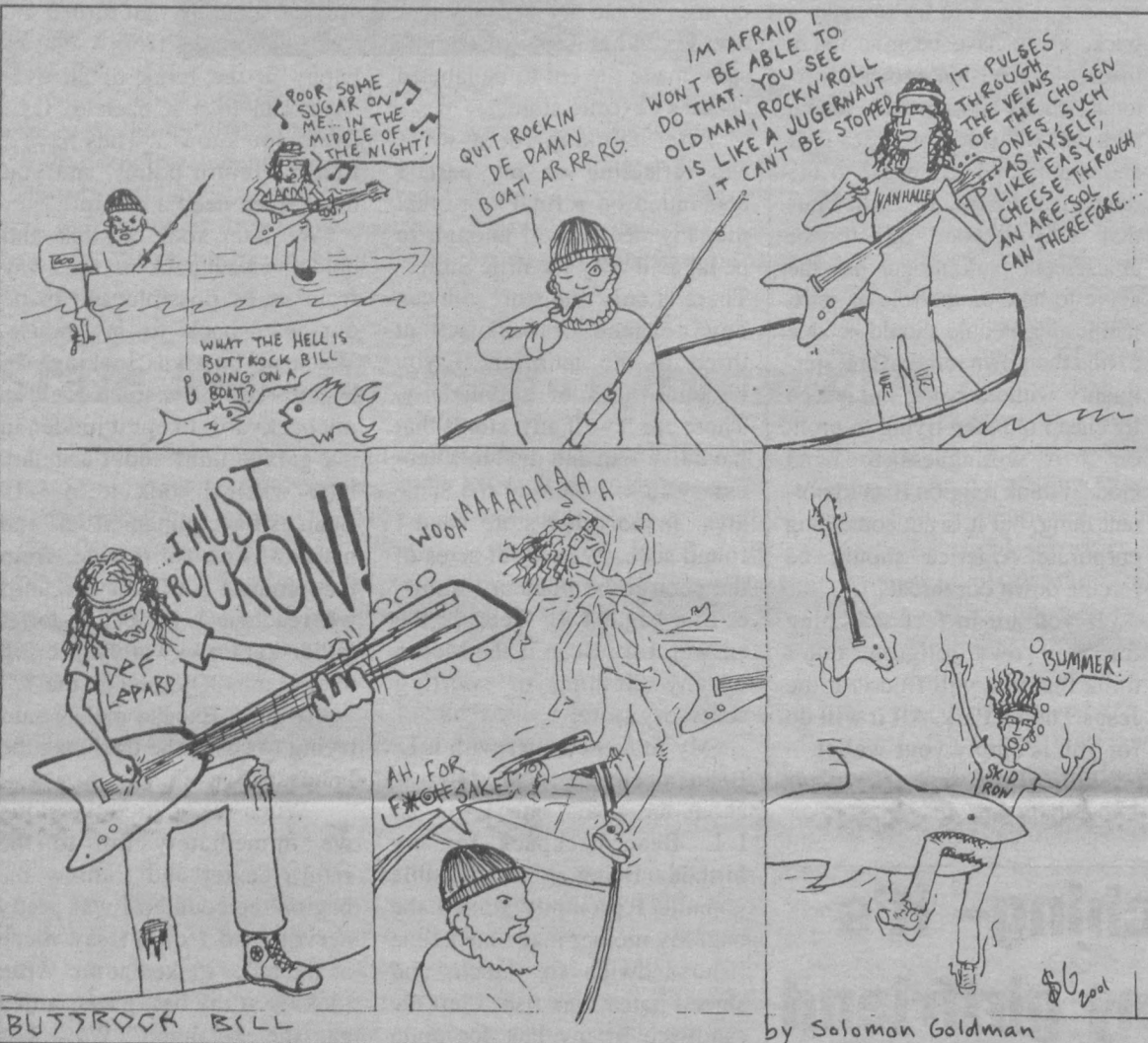
## BITING HUMOR

BY STEPHEN WINSLOW



Behind the B-ball

by Paul Ezzy



LEX



TOUCHY HEALEY

## Crossword

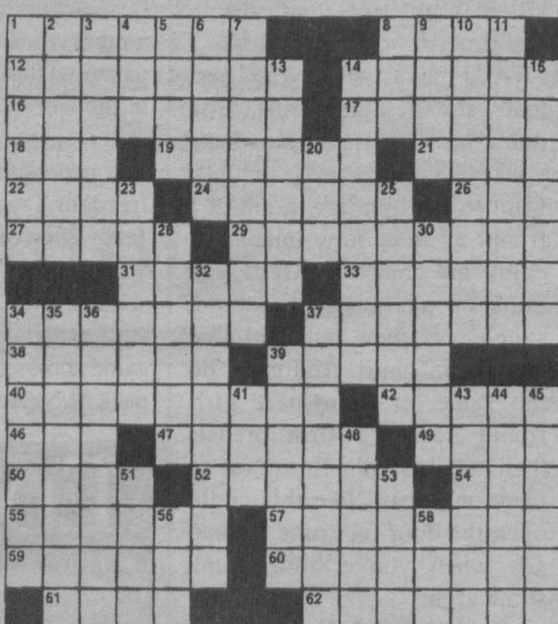
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0110

- ACROSS**
- Four-time Emmy winner for "Sesame Street"
  - Geometric solids
  - Anvils, e.g.
  - What many villains come to
  - Where E is a line
  - With vitriol
  - Cambodia's — Nol
  - American Flyer maker
  - Raymond who wrote "Till We Meet Again"
  - It's a reel problem
  - Harry of John O'Hara's "Appointment in Samarra"
  - Messenger
  - Actor Davis
  - Game supplies
  - Decoration technique
  - Faux pearl
  - Rich cheese
  - Some are holy
  - He played the Thing in "The Thing"
  - Beau
  - Works by Bach
  - Sitting quarters
  - Hyman award for female athletes
  - "Buenas" (Spanish greeting)
  - Ward of Mississippi
  - Be held in high esteem
  - Deluxe hotel suite feature
  - Black bird
  - "Twelfth Night" character
  - Cheek
  - To be specific
  - Down Under line
  - Dry
  - Classic movie scorer Max

### DOWN

- Elvis's "I — Bad"
- Spun fabrics
- Happening places
- Its slogan was once "Parade of Stars"
- Schmidt's successor
- Station sign
- Focuses (on)
- Middle of a kids' game
- Jon Arbuckle's dog
- "Georgy Girl" star
- Hardly a sea lover
- Gift giver
- Site in the game Clue
- Czars, e.g.
- "Eldorado" rock grp.
- Kind of gravy
- "Old —"
- Vexes
- Thick with hair
- Chuck
- Yellow-orange
- Chorus parts
- Lickety-split
- Common wedding cake trim
- Sale indicator
- Push one's hot buttons
- Highway feature
- Oregon Trail river
- Twain hero
- 1978 Camp David visitor
- Just once
- Toothy Martha
- St. Martin, e.g.
- Year in Edward the Elder's reign



Puzzle by Mark Diehl

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

OLDASMETHUSELAH  
HEIRTOTHE THRONE  
MISCALCULATIONS  
YAK OHM HICKS  
ARK BRAC  
LABREA NANKIPOO  
ILLINI AMS NERO  
MOOSE LIP SARAH  
BORE TIL SPRITE  
OPENARMS HAULED  
MINK EMT  
STAUB ETC ADE  
CHARLOTTERUSSES  
WESTERNCLASSICS  
TAKETOTHEBOTTLE

I think its probably a nice thing to do when you don't have enough money for a tip, to tell the waiter a joke. Then, when he laughs you can say: "You just laughed yourself right out of a tip."



## VIC'S CORNER

BY VICTOR ARIOUS,  
ENTERTAINMENT SECTION EDITOR

CROSSWORDS AND CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S FUND (NOT NECESSARILY IN THAT ORDER):

"THIS IS MARIA! SAYS WALTER F\*\*\*ING COPPAGE OF C.C.F. 'MARIA HAS TO WALK THESE DIRTY, ROCKY STREETS BAREFOOT! BUT YOU CAN STOP HER SUFFERING FOR ONLY CENTS A DAY' HE SAYS. WELL, WALT, YOU COULD STOP LITTLE MARIA'S SUFFERING FOR FREE IF YOU'D JUST CARRY HER! BUT, IF YOU WON'T EXPEND THE EFFORT, THAN NEITHER WILL I. TOUGH ROCKS, MARIA!"

ON ANOTHER NOTE: SOME OF YOU MAY WONDER WHY WE SOMETIMES HAVE EITHER THE WRONG SOLUTION OR NONE AT ALL FOR THE CROSSWORD PUZZLES. IT'S NOT BECAUSE WE HATE THE CROSSWORD PUZZLES. IT'S BECAUSE OUR PUZZLES COME TO US IN SERIES OF SIX, BUT EACH SERIES ISN'T ALWAYS IN ORDER WITH THE ONE BEFORE IT. WHEN WE START A NEW SET OF SIX, THE FIRST PUZZLE HAS THE ANSWERS FOR THE LAST CROSSWORD OF THE PREVIOUS SERIES. IF ANYONE WANTS TO SOLVE THE LAST PUZZLE FOR US IN ADVANCE, THE POSITION IS OPEN. 'TILL MONDAY!"

-Victor Arious



# Entertainment

**Work on a farm...  
or for the Opinion  
Section**



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# style&arts

## Passion and artistry culminate in teaching



Baycka Voronietzky and Phillip Silver in rehearsal for their Saturday performance in Minsky Hall. CAMPUS PHOTO BY SCOTT SHELTON.

By Debra Hatch  
Copy Editor

Baycka Voronietzky says every time she prepares for a recital she gets sick and has since she began playing at the age of nine. Currently, the associate professor of music is fending off a case of bronchitis with only one more day before her recital. But despite her illness, Voronietzky says music is her life — it is the one thing she can't imagine being without. It has spurred a marriage between her devotion, passion and the artistry of the piano.

Born in Poland, Voronietzky lived through World War II, at one time fleeing the country because of the war. She says her family lost everything during that time but started over after the fighting had ceased. Voronietzky said when they returned to Poland, it was difficult to assimilate back into the country but the performance of music was one way to win hearts and get back in touch with those around them. The one thing they didn't lose during the war, Voronietzky said, was their love of music.

Her mother was a concert pianist and her father played piano "very well" by ear. Her aunts, who were major forces in Voronietzky's life, loved opera and from a young age she shared her love of music by singing and dancing. And while she loved those things, the piano was the instrument chosen for her by her family. It was expected, she said, to play and doing anything else wouldn't have allowed her to be as accepted as a part of the family.

At the age of seven and the beginning of her career as a pianist, the instrument struck a chord with her. She describes her youth as a time when she was a loner, the girl without many friends. The piano served an important role in allowing her to not only express feelings, but to also confide in.

"It was someone to talk to,"

she said. "Someone to share joys and fears with. I have this tremendous fear that my feelings will be hurt because music is a very personal feeling." But the piano, she said, did not increase that fear.

It is the stage, Voronietzky said, which has always been a source of fear and apprehension for her. While she loves what she plays and the process of creating music, Voronietzky says she gets stage fright when she goes on to perform a concert, either solo or with another musician.

"It is set in a way that creates an added pressure," she said. "It is very scary to play by memory which has always been the tradition of pianists. Because of the way that memories are, it is possible that you might get lost when immersed in the music and concentrating so hard. The music is beautiful and the stage is okay, but it can be beautiful too."

While in Poland, she studied music throughout her education and went on to study at "F. Chopin" Warsaw Conservatory of Music where she earned her first masters degree in performance.

While her family had expected Voronietzky would become a concert pianist, she had other thoughts and a desire to teach music. That desire brought her to the United States in 1969.

Her emigration to the United States brought her first to New York and then to California — a state where she was less than thrilled with the climate and wanted a place that had much more snow. Coming back to the New England area, Voronietzky studied at the University of Massachusetts where she earned her second masters degree in piano performance and pedagogy.

Once in New England, a friend recommended Voronietzky go to Maine to experience the state. She fell in love with it. She moved to Maine in 1978 not only for its natural beauty, but for the plentiful amount of snow. Voronietzky

See MUSICIAN on page 12

## Blues legend and rising star play at Maine Center for the Arts

By Stanley Dankoski  
Web Editor

Bluesman Buddy Guy and newcomer Shemekia Copeland are set to perform this weekend on campus in a tour that proves legends never die and new ones are still being made.

The sold-out concert will bring Guy, 64, and Copeland, 21, to the stage at 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, in Hutchins Concert Hall at the Maine Center for the Arts.

Guy's latest album, "Everyday I Have the Blues," a live album with long-time blues fellow Junior Wells released in 2000, brings him back on tour after a decade's run in the limelight, a career that started in the mid-1950s, when he sat in with leading performers near his hometown of Lettsworth, La.

After meeting the great composer-bassist Willie Dixon, he signed up with Chess Records in 1960, where he played in sessions

with Muddy Waters, Dixon, Little Walter, Koko Taylor and Howlin' Wolf.

Tearing up the scene in the '50s and '60s, Guy later lost the feedback from fans in the late '70s. He took a step back from success and, in 1989, opened a blues club in Chicago called Legends, now a famous hot spot for touring blues musicians.

As was Jimi Hendrix, British blues-rocker Eric Clapton was admittedly inspired by Guy's per-

formances, especially his guitar solo work, so in the early 1990s Clapton invited Guy to perform with him at the Royal Albert Hall in London. This new exposure to a new generation of fans catapulted Guy into blues fame once again. After the Clapton concert he signed with the Silvertone label and recorded the "Damn Right I Got the Blues" album, followed by the mixed reviewed "Feels Like Rain" as well as the fantastically received live album

performed with former Saturday Night Live band frontman G.E. Smith.

More recently Guy teamed up with junior blues boy Jonny Lang, now 20, with the song "Midnight Train," which received considerable airplay.

Musical inspiration must have dawned on his own daughter Shawna, who in 1999 formed,

See BLUES on page 12



# Dynamic Duo finally agree

By Hannah Jackson and  
David B. Hall  
For The Maine Campus

**She:** It's true, I've seen some really bad movies in my day. But I really thought directors set standards. "Valentine," directed by Jamie Blanks, gives us an hour and 37 minutes of pure crap. Starring the ever-talented Denise Richards, "Valentine" is a horror movie that isn't scary, funny or interesting. This struck me as disturbing, because usually when a horror movie is bad, you can at least laugh at it. This one made me yawn.

**He:** For once, I agree with my comrade. "Valentine" was boring, dull and unimaginative. The plot line revolves around four girls whom the audience meets at a sixth grade dance and ends with the quartet being a sad parody of "Sex in the City." The villain is a sixth grade geek turned modern day psycho — the result of being turned down by these four.

"Valentine" then jumps from one red herring to the next, trying to confuse the audience as to who the real serial killer is, but the movie forgets one thing: halfway through this garbage,

we don't care anymore.

**She:** It's too bad the production company actually paid the actors and crew to make this movie. It wasn't worth the film. But the movie really makes me scared that someone I made fun of in middle school will come after me for revenge. Just kidding.

Blanks also directed "Urban Legends," which was no great film either, but much better than "Valentine."

**He:** There is something that strikes me as funny about the four women who are terrorized in this film. One is smart, one is a beauty queen, one is supposed to be chubby and one is a slut. Only one has a

boyfriend but he's actually an on and off thing. What's striking is that the entire movie has this theme of women trying to find that perfect mate. They all do dating services and they're always whining about never meeting the right man. Strangely it's that perfect mate that kills them all. Hmmm? Irony or just unimaginative?

**She:** Unimaginative. Sorry if we spoiled the plot, kids. Another major downfall of this movie is it isn't even formulaic.

See MOVIE on page 12

'I don't even remember being scared during the movie. That's pretty bad.'

## Opera at the MCA



Theresa Goble (Carmen) and Nicholas Ransley (Don Jose) of the London City Opera perform Carmen Thursday evening at the Maine Center for the Arts. The only opera scheduled at UMaine this year, Carmen was well attended by both students and community members. See The Maine Campus Monday for a review of the performance. CAMPUS PHOTO BY SCOTT SHELTON.

## Counseling Center offers variety of options

By Amanda Bouley  
For The Maine Campus

There are many resources on campus available to students, but many don't even realize they exist or how helpful they can be. One of these resources is the Counseling Center located in Cutler Health Center.

"The overall goal is to help stu-

dents prevent problems that would interfere with their success," said Doug Johnson, the Director of the Counseling Center. The Counseling Center has two different ways of accomplishing that goal. One way is through therapy, the other is through prevention and education programs such as the "Food for Thought" series.

The Counseling Center offers

individual as well as a variety of group therapies. The group therapies that are offered by the center are a Women's Group, a General Therapy Group, and a Meditation and Relaxation Psychoeducational Group.

"The group counseling is a form of psychotherapy where students come together around a

See COUNSELING on page 12

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Interviews for pre-selects	2/28

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TERADYNE

The career center is on the third floor of Chadbourne Hall.



## Counseling

from page 11

common interest or need with a therapist," said Jennifer Fife, an intern at the Counseling Center.

The Center is also looking into the possibility of a "movie-related group in which movie clips will be shown to facilitate discussion," said center intern Jay Coughlin. "The focus will be on grief, trauma and loss-based issues." This is an unconventional form of a group, and the objective will be to watch a clip and try to relate to the issue at hand.

The "Food for Thought" series is an informal gathering to discuss a variety of issues. "We try to get a sense of what the need is in the community and do a series based on that," said Fife. Topics in past months have included body image, signs of suicide, humor and well-being and eating disorders.

The format of these sessions is a casual, conversation-style. "The purpose is to have a more casual connection; it is less daunting to go to the Counseling Center if you know someone there," said Fife. The "Food for Thought" series meets on the first Wednesday of every month in the FFA Room of the Memorial Union from noon to 1 p.m. Students are encouraged to bring lunch and join in the discussions.

"One of the points of this presentation is to disprove the bias

that 'good' people don't need help," said Fife. Many people don't believe their problem is serious enough to get help for, however, the counselors are available even to talk about roommate problems.

"They [students] think going to counseling is a sign of weakness," said Johnson. "It's actually a sign of strength," said Fife. It is also important to remember that at the Center "we respect confidentiality," said Coughlin.

The Counseling Center is composed of a staff of 13 counselors which includes six graduate students. There is no cost for the Counseling Center's services for full-time students, and free services are also available for group therapy for part-time students.

Look for yoga sessions offered during the last three weeks of classes. The sessions are an example of the Counseling Center's prevention and education programs. The yoga classes have been coordinated to help students manage the stress of finals. "We keep looking for ways to empower people and prevent problems," said Johnson.

For more information about the Counseling Center's programs and therapies give them a call at 581-1392, or visit their Web site, [www.umaine.edu/counseling](http://www.umaine.edu/counseling).

## Blues

from page 10

with partner Lateefa, the hip hop duo Infamous Syndicate. Guy performs on the self-titled album on the cuts "City of Hustlas" and "Here I Go."

Copeland, who opens for Guy Saturday night, is another daughter who grew up with the blues: her father Johnny Copeland had a long-standing career and introduced his young daughter to such greats as Stevie Ray Vaughan. The father encouraged Shemekia to sing in churches and, eventually, opened shows for her father in 1995, when she was 16, when his health began to worsen. Just before he died, the president of Alligator Records promised to sign her a contract.

Her second album, "Wicked," her latest, was released last year and has been hailed as more mature than her first, titled "Turn the Heat Up." Critics marvel at the intensity of her voice, which may drive a freight train to full power.

That voice is planned to return to Maine later this year, when Copeland is scheduled to perform at the North Atlantic Blues Festival on July 15 in Rockland.

## Movie from page 11

it's just dumb. They at least could have gone with a common horror theme like boy meets girl, boy kills girl; or there's just a random psycho going around killing people. I don't even remember being scared during the movie. That's pretty bad.

**He:** We could go on and on about staying away from this stinker but we will stop here. If you like seeing pretty girls in various stages of undress and you get jumpy with creepy music in the background; "Valentine" is up your alley. I will suggest this though, wait until it goes to the cheap seats. Paying too much for a bum movie always gets me mad.

USE YOUR  
HEAD...

...ALWAYS WEAR A  
CONDOM.

The Maine Campus

## Musician

from page 10

spent time before coming to the University of Maine on a lobster boat and working at other odd jobs to pay the bills.

But as much as she believes in her music, she also believes in the spiritual world and that people never die, but simply exchange bodies. She credits her chance at coming to teach at UMaine as "fate, absolute fate." Voronietzky said a departing faculty member had heard her play at a concert and led to her knowing about the offering.

She hasn't looked back since, in fact, her passion for teaching has always been a part of her life.

"I have always liked to teach," she said. "Even as a child, if I learned something new I wanted to share it with the other kids."

Her students, she says, are one of the most important parts of her life. While she has no children of her own, she uses her position to not only teach them the fundamentals of playing: notes, technique, fingerings and passion, but also anything she learns which she thinks will help them. Her interest in spirituality and meditation filter into her lessons as Voronietzky believes it is important to know abilities which will help the musician to concentrate and feel the music while they perform. And she says she learns as much from her students as she does on her own.

Senior piano major Jennifer A. Moore said, as a teacher and a person, Voronietzky is open to people and takes on a mothering approach to her students' health and well being. She is always willing to sit down and help when she can, said Moore.

Moore has been taking private lessons with Voronietzky since she began at UMaine.

"When I first came to school I had a lot of technical problems and her teaching opened me up technically as a musician and emotionally," Moore said. "As a soloist she's a phenomenal pianist ... she has a lot of freedom and spirit which really touches your soul."

Voronietzky shares her life not only with her students, but also with her German Shepherd Zora and cat Miles Davis. While Miles remains at home

during the day, Zora accompanies her to school. With her own little corner of the spacious office which Voronietzky occupies on the third floor of the Class of 1944 Hall, Zora is one of the most calm and congenial dogs around. And Voronietzky wouldn't even think to leave Zora at home alone during the day. She said Zora is her security, something she has always needed and fears being without. Because dogs are people animals, it does Zora as much good being on campus as it does for Voronietzky and the students.

Currently, after the deaths of her two aunts, the last of her immediate family, Voronietzky is in the process of dictating a book that will be written later about her life, her work and her music. The writing of the book comes at a time when Voronietzky feels freedom from her family, as well as sadness at their passing. But, she believes, they are always with us.

And her love for the piano is a marriage of passion. This is obvious to those people she knows and Moore is certain Voronietzky's concert on Saturday will be one that will astound the audience.

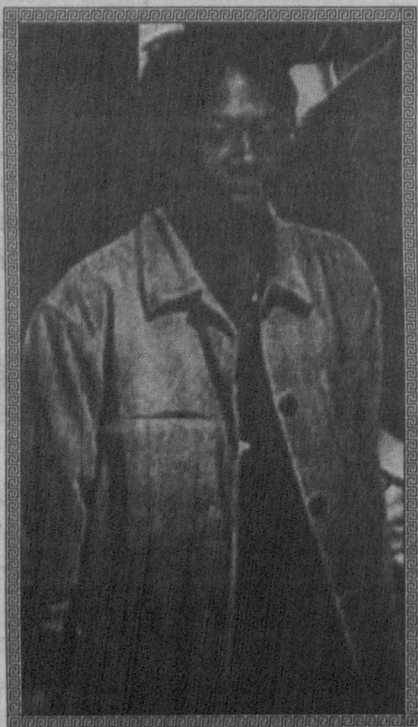
Playing a program full of Polish composer Chopin's work, Voronietzky has also slated music by Schubert and Mendelssohn-Bartholdy. The most impressive piece and the one Voronietzky is most excited to do is a Sonata by Ignaz Moscheles.

This Sonata will be a four hands piano piece where fellow colleague Phillip Silver will join her on the same piano keyboard. The music Voronietzky and Silver will be using could not be purchased in the United States because there were no publishers printing it here. Voronietzky said Silver brought it back from Great Britain for their use and it is a piece that was meant to be played four handed—Moscheles and Chopin played the very same piece in its beginnings.

Voronietzky's concert will be held on Saturday, Feb. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall in the Class of 1944 building. Tickets are free with a MaineCard.

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# Former NFL star back in school

## Kicker works for master's at Harvard

By Alyssa R. Berman  
Harvard Crimson

(U-WIRE) CAMBRIDGE, Mass. - The Kennedy School of Government (KSG) frequently hosts eminent government officials and political luminaries; it's even welcomed a prince or two.

Now the KSG has a star athlete in its midst.

Nick Lowery, a former player for the NFL's Kansas City Chiefs and New York Jets, is pursuing his master's degree in public administration at the KSG.

Lowery retired from the NFL in 1997, after a 17-year, record-setting career as a place-kicker.

Lowery attended Dartmouth as an undergraduate, and during the NFL off-season worked with Presidents Ronald Reagan, George Bush and Bill Clinton on community service initiatives.

He has a particular interest in issues affecting Native American youth, and Clinton

recently named Lowery one of the nine directors of the Foundation for American Indian Education, run under the auspices of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Indian Affairs.

Lowery, who himself is not of Native American descent, founded Native Vision several years ago, a foundation aimed at enhancing the health and well-being of American Indian youth.

"We're trying to increase [young people's] capacity to ask their own questions," Lowery said. "That's what true empowerment is."

The foundation supports reservation-based programs that focus on physical fitness, education and maintaining a healthy standard of living.

As Lowery continues his commitment to public service, he says he wants people to have a stronger connection with their government.

"We need to rebuild the connection and trust and shared values," Lowery said. "A more cooperative relationship with the media is also necessary so that stories that need to be told, can be told."

Lowery says that his years as a sports analyst for ABC and ESPN have given him greater understanding about the role media plays in U.S. culture.

"When you've seen it from both sides, you really have some strong preferences about the press," Lowery said.

Lowery says his father — a former CIA employee — and his next-door neighbor, Byron White — a U.S. Supreme Court justice for more than 30 years — have been his role models and inspiration to enter public service.

"I got a very powerful sense of what these men gave up for their country," Lowery said. "That is the essence of service."

"Civically, anybody can make a difference," Lowery added.

## Recker

from page 14

Recker leads Iowa (17-4, 6-2 Big Ten) with 18.1 points per game and has been named Big Ten Player of the Week twice.

"He's a guy who late in the games that you can go to and know not only are you going to get a high percentage shot, but a shot he makes most of the time," Iowa coach Steve Alford said. "He's pulled us out of a lot of games already this year, so you lose that Big Ten leadership that he gives you on the floor."

The combination of Recker's accurate shooting and forward Reggie Evans' brute strength in the paint had thrown Iowa into the Big Ten elite with Michigan State and Illinois. But without Recker's long-range missiles, more pressure will fall on Evans and senior guard Dean Oliver.

After his team downed Minnesota 64-55 on Wednesday night, Alford felt Iowa's supporting cast could handle Recker's absence.

"I think we're deep enough. I think our young players have got-

ten enough experience over the season," Alford said. "So now they are going to be asked to step up their roles and I think they are ready for that."

## ALLISON OUT

Purdue coach Gene Keady wasted no time divulging secrets to the media Monday, opening his conference call with the announcement that center John Allison would be out indefinitely with a stress fracture in his right foot.

Allison had X-rays taken Monday that revealed the stress fracture, believed to have occurred in practice last week. Allison leads the Boilermakers in rebounds (5.6 rpg), blocks (2.8 bpg) and is third in scoring (10.9 ppg). In Saturday's 72-55 loss to No. 4 Michigan State, Allison scored only three points in 21 minutes.

"We'll have to suck it up and pick up where John left off," Keady said. "We're going to miss his inside play."

The Boilermakers will need 6-foot-11 freshman center Kevin Garrity to fill in for Allison in the paint. This season Garrity has averaged seven minutes per game and is 6 for 18 from the

field. Keady will also call upon forward Rodney Smith, who leads Purdue with 15.5 points per game.

"(Smith's) a good attitude-guy, hard worker and gets better each year because of his ability to have that work ethic we've always had here with those players that become All-Big Ten," Keady said.

## SECOND LAP

Now that Big Ten teams have surpassed the halfway point in the conference season, only four and a half weeks remain until the Big Ten tournament. Many teams are now facing opponents for the second time.

When No. 16 Wisconsin hosts Purdue on Wednesday night, it will be the teams' second meeting of the season and sixth (including Big Ten and NCAA tournaments) in the past two years. Badgers interim coach Brad Soderberg spoke about the decreased importance of strategy in these rematches.

"In this league at this time of the year there aren't many surprises," Soderberg said. "Pretty much we all know what each other is going to do and it really becomes more of a players' game than a coaches' game."

## Bullpen

from page 16

on fire.

I am qualified for a bullpen job with my two seasons of Little League and five games in Babe Ruth League. Being the only left-hander on my team, I was stuck at first base, which is not exactly reserved for the worst fielder on the team. With only seven hits over the course of those two Little League seasons, a Mark McGwire I was not, but rather a Hall of Fame bullpen man in the making.

So, I am going to re-do my resume with the Kiwanis Little League experience at the top,

then I am going to get a left-handed catchers mitt, rarer than the fourth full moon in a season, also known as a Blue Moon, and I am going to get a catcher's helmet that fits over my glasses.

This job market is thriving and this is the time to look. Maybe a college internship would be helpful for me to land that dream job later. So, Coach Kostacopoulos, if you need a bullpen catcher, a real go-getter with great people skills and computer proficiency, then let me know.

For now, I am going to work on catching the curveball.

## Men's hockey

from page 16

of Maine's 2.7.

Between the pipes for UMass is Hockey East veteran Markus Helanen. The senior netminder has a 3.21 goals against average to go with an .888 save percentage. Helanen has been in net for six of the Minutemen's seven victories.

Maine will be without the services of senior forward and assistant captain, Matthias Trattnig. Trattnig has traveled to his native Austria to participate in

a pre-Olympic qualifying tournament for his country. He will be gone throughout the weekend.

The Black Bears, currently fifth in Hockey East, will be hoping to catch lightning in a bottle for the second straight year. Down the stretch last season, Maine finished 7-0-1. With six of their remaining eight games against teams below them in the conference standings, the possibility for another strong finish still remains.

# Classifieds

## Miscellaneous

Gay/Les/Bi/Trans/Questioning: Coffee Talk \*207 Little Hall\* Every Tuesday 7:00-8:30pm.

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How the Grinch Stole... (PG)	12:30, 3:05, 5:10
What Women Want (PG-13)	12:05, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45
DTS Digital Sound Sugar And Spice (PG-13)	12:25, 2:30, 4:50

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## WEEKEND CALENDAR

## Friday

Women's hockey vs. Niagara 7 p.m.

## Saturday

Women's hockey vs. Niagara 7 p.m.

## Sunday

Women's basketball vs. New Hampshire 1 p.m.

## ON THE ROAD...

## Friday

Men's Hockey at UMass-Amherst

## Saturday

Men's Hockey at UMass-Amherst

Track at St. Valentine Classic at Boston University

## Sunday

Men's Basketball at New Hampshire

## Maine, UNH hit the hardcourt

By Kelly Brown  
Women's Basketball Reporter

The University of Maine women's basketball team will face America East rival New Hampshire Sunday afternoon. UNH is just coming off a win to Boston University, while the UMaine Black Bears are coming off a pair of wins against Hartford and Vermont. The wins last weekend moved Maine up to fifth in America East standings, bumping Hartford back down to sixth.

Earlier this week, Heather Ernest was named Rookie of the Week for the fourth straight week, for averaging 14 points and 11 rebounds in last weekend's victories. Ernest currently leads the league in double doubles with 14 and is third in rebounding with an average of 11 per game.

The Wildcats will bring Annaa and Marren Mathias to the court this weekend, along with Marren Mathias. Both are legitimate threats to the Black Bears. Anna Mathias is fifth in the America East with 49.7 percent field goal percentage and Marren Mathias is in the top 15 America East rebounding category, averaging six per game.

Last time UMaine faced the UNH Wildcats, they lost 79-72, led by junior Heidi Plecner with 21 points. This loss marked the first time Maine had fallen to UNH since the 1992-93 season.

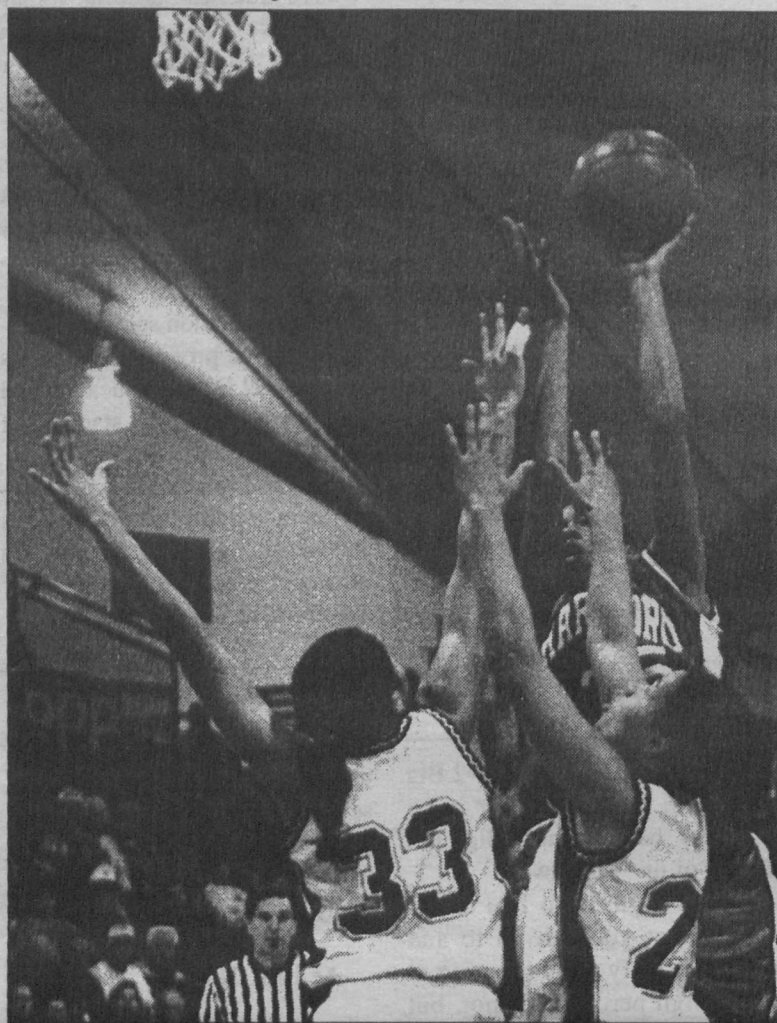
UNH is currently ranked eighth in America East standings.

Maine is trailing fourth-place Northeastern by half a game. Northeastern faces last-place Towson and first-place Delaware this weekend. If Northeastern beats Towson and loses to Delaware and a Maine beats UNH, Maine would earn a share of fourth place in

America East.

Hartford and Hofstra are also in the picture, chasing Maine. The teams square off on Saturday. Hartford also takes on Drexel and Hofstra is at Vermont this weekend.

The Black Bears face off against the Wildcats Sunday afternoon at 1 p.m. in Alford Arena.



Maine's Anna James (left) and Kizzy Lopez (right) team up on a Hartford shooter. CAMPUS PHOTO BY JASON CANNIFF.

## Iowa's Recker has season wrecked by knee injury

By Adam Rittenberg  
Daily Northwestern

EVANSTON, Ill (U-WIRE). - The inside-outside attack that has baffled the Big Ten this season took a serious blow Friday when Iowa team trainer John Albright made an announcement no one wanted to hear.

Albright said the Hawkeyes' star guard, Luke Recker, will miss

"at least six weeks or possibly more," with a broken right kneecap. The injury occurred in No. 14 Iowa's comeback victory over Indiana on Jan. 17, in which Recker exploded for 27 points against his former team.

The fracture, a small crack on the side of Recker's kneecap, was likely caused by a collision with an opposing player's knee, Albright said. Recker could return for the Big Ten tournament, which begins March 8.

Despite nagging knee tendonitis throughout the season,

See RECKER on page 13

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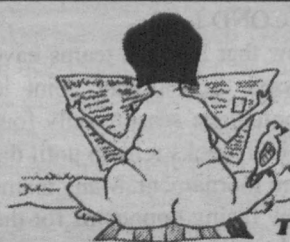
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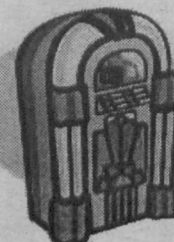
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# Women's hockey faces Niagara in crucial series

By Jeff Mannix  
Women's Hockey Reporter

Perhaps the biggest weekend this season looms ahead of the Maine women's hockey team. The Black Bears will play a two-

game series against the Niagara Purple Eagles at Alford Arena tonight at 7 p.m. and on tomorrow at 3 p.m.

Maine is in a tooth-and-nail fight for the final ECAC playoff spot. The team that currently

holds that spot is Niagara. The Purple Eagles currently have a 14-11-3 overall record and a 6-9-3 mark in the ECAC, which gives them 15 league points. The Black Bears are currently 10-11-1 overall, with a 5-10-1 ECAC

record for 11 league points, which puts them four behind Niagara for the last playoff spot.

A Maine sweep will mean that the Black Bears will be in an eighth place tie with Niagara, with two games in hand. But a Niagara sweep will help them put distance between themselves and their pursuers. A Niagara sweep would also make it virtually impossible for Maine to make the playoffs.

Head coach Rick Filighera knows that it may all be on the line for his team this weekend. "We may need to sweep to make the playoffs," he said.

Niagara, coached by Margot Page, is a team that does not score in bunches. They win games because of their defense and goaltending, which Filighera made light of. "They play physical and they assert themselves. If our players don't assert themselves, we won't win. If we go out and play the game we're capable of playing, we can beat them."

"We've got to beat their goaltender," he said. "She's probably the best goalie in the league, even though her stats aren't showing it. She has the capability of standing on her head." To do this, he feels Maine needs to generate lots of chances in the offensive zone, more than the 20 shots on goal or so a game that they accumulated last weekend.

The goaltender that Filighera spoke of beating is Tania Pinelli, a junior from Hamilton, Ontario. Pinelli has experience on Canada's under-22 national team. She was named the National Defensive Player of the Week by

U.S. College Hockey Online for the week of Jan. 22.

She has played in 24 games this season for the Purple Eagles. She has a record of 12-9-3, with a very low 1.76 goals against average and a .921 save percentage.

The defense is very solid, but doesn't score a whole lot. They are all physical and play the position well. The leaders are junior Barbara Prall (1 goal, 11 assists, 12 points), sophomore Linda Groff (4 goals, 6 assists, 10 points) and freshman Dawn MacCauley (2 goals, 7 assists, 9 points).

Up front, the Eagles have a few players who can be dangerous at times. The group is led by junior Brooke Bradburn, who also has experience for the Canadian U-22 team, sophomore Candice Ceelen and Stephanie Romain. Sophomore Valarie Hall, freshmen Lindsay Vine and Jennifer Goulet also are important factors.

Filighera believes that Maine may have an advantage because Niagara has never had to play at Alford Arena before. Maine will still be minus Raffi Wolf, who is playing for Team Germany in an Olympic Qualifying tournament in Switzerland. He also thinks that a split would not eliminate Maine from the playoff race, but winning both games will go a long way. "We have the two games in hand on them, and they have to play tough teams. If we can take these two and then get Raffi back, I think we're in pretty good shape for the rest of the season."

Both games can be heard live

## SNOW CONDITIONS

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<b>Black Mountain</b> Rumford, ME 364-8977 Call for hours	None	Powder/ Packed powder	Yes	Call for rates	Call for rates
<b>Eaton Mountain</b> Skowhegan, ME 474-2666 Hours: M-F 3-10 p.m. Sat-Sun 9 a.m.-10 p.m.	0"	Groomed powder	Yes	Call for rates	Full day \$19 Nights \$16
<b>Hermon Mountain</b> Hermon, ME 848-5192 Call for hours	0"	Powder/ Packed powder	Yes	\$10 half day \$13 full day	Half day \$11 Full day \$18
<b>Lost Valley</b> Auburn, ME 784-1561 www.lostvalleyski.com Call for hours	0"	Packed powder/ MGS	Yes	Call for rates	Weekday \$18 Midweek \$30 -tickets also come in smaller time amounts
<b>Mt. Abram</b> Locke Mills, ME 875-5002 www.skimtabram.com Hours: Th-Sun 9-4	0"	Packed powder	No	\$16 half day \$25 full day	Half day \$26 Full day \$33 2 for 1 Thursday College discount Friday's for \$18
<b>Saddleback</b> Rangle, ME 864-5671 www.saddlebackskiarea.com Hours: 8:30-4	1"	Powder/ Packed powder	No	Call for rates	M-F half \$24 M-F full \$30 S-S half \$33 S-S full \$41 Weekend prices shown with student discount
<b>Shawnee Peak</b> Bridgton, ME 647-8444 www.shawneepeak.com Hours: Midweek 9-9 Weekend 8:30 a.m.-10 p.m.	0"	Packed powder	Yes	\$25 full day \$28 for snowboards	Weekend \$39 Midweek \$29 other prices available for half day, twilight and night times.
<b>Sugarloaf USA</b> Carrabasset Valley, ME 237-2000 www.sugarloaf.com Hours: 8:30-3:50	0"	Powder/ Packed powder	No	\$30 full day \$32 for snowboards	Full day \$51 Call for half day rates
<b>Sunday River</b> Bethel, ME 824-3000 www.sundayriver.com Hours: M-F 9-4 Weekends 8-4	0"	Packed powder	No	Call for rates	Weekend \$53 Weekday \$49

The recent snowfall totals are from the last 24-48 hours. (Not including the snowstorm earlier this week.) The first surface condition is the primary condition and the second one is usually the conditions on 20-30 percent of the trails, according to the ski area reports.

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# The Maine Campus Sports

## Maine takes momentum to Amherst

By Jim Leonard  
Men's Hockey Reporter

Coming off what might be its biggest victory of the season, the UMaine men's hockey team will look to stay on the proverbial roll with a pair of games in Amherst, Massachusetts this weekend.

The fallout from the Black Bears' 3-2 overtime victory over New Hampshire was felt in every corner of college hockey. Maine (11-9-6 overall, 6-6-4 Hockey East), out of the top 15 in the polls last week, vaulted into the 11th spot after the victory.

Martin Kariya summed up Maine's mindset succinctly after Saturday night's game.

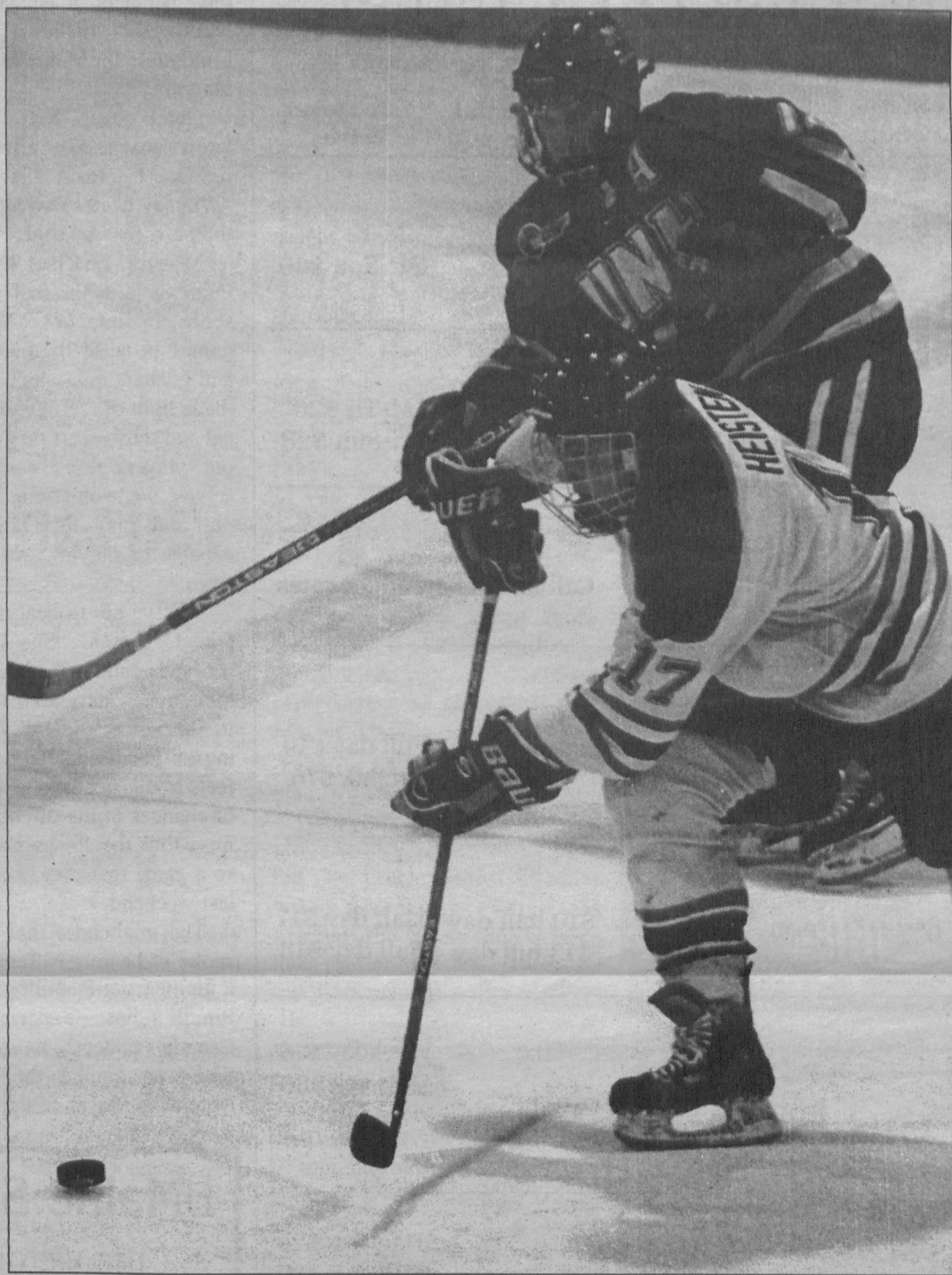
"We played well, but it's just one game," Kariya said. "That's a trap we can fall into, looking too far ahead. We've just got to approach every game like a playoff game."

And speaking of traps, next up on the schedule are the UMass Minutemen. On paper, the eighth place team in Hockey East looks like a pushover. This is exactly why they don't play games on paper.

UMass-Amherst is currently 7-18-3 overall, 6-11-1 in Hockey East. Included in their six conference wins is a road victory against second place Providence and a home shutout of New Hampshire.

The Minutemen are led by forwards Tim Turner and Martin Miljko. Turner leads the team with 14 goals and 23 points, while Miljko is tied for second in team scoring with 20 points and a team-leading six power play goals. Tim's brother Jeff Turner has matched Miljko's 20 points with five goals and 15 assists.

Like Maine, UMass has had trouble putting the puck in the net this season. Coming into this weekend, the Minutemen score an average of 2.4 goals per game, just in back



Maine's Chris Heisten pushes the puck up ice against New Hampshire. Heisten found the back of the net twice against the Wildcats. CAMPUS PHOTO BY SCOTT SHELTON.

See MEN'S HOCKEY on page 13

## Final stretch prepares Maine for tourney

By Lucas Peterson  
Men's Basketball Reporter

Twenty-one days, five games, one goal—America East champions.

The University of Maine men's basketball team set three goals at the beginning of the season. Winning 20 games and becoming the America East regular season champions were two of those targets. But one goal stands alone, on a plateau above all the rest. The objective is clear; win the America East Tournament and receive an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

Head coach John Giannini feels his Black Bear team can reach their ultimate goal.

"The most important goal, which is the NCAA tournament, is extremely realistic for us," Giannini said.

The America East championship is just three weeks away, March 2-4, and every game the

rest of the way will be very important. The Black Bears have five games remaining and how they fair in those conference match-ups will determine their seed for the tournament. Three of the Black Bears' remaining five games are on the road. Sunday the team travels to the Whittemore Center on the campus of the University of New Hampshire.

The Wildcats head into the weekend at 5-8, good for seventh in the America East standings. UNH likes to run and will put points on the board.

"The New Hampshire game will be almost all based on effort and passing," Giannini said.

One key for Maine will be keeping the Wildcats off the offensive glass. New Hampshire leads the league in offensive rebounding, averaging nearly 14 per game. Coach Giannini knows his team will have to compete against fresh legs.

"They only play people for three to five minutes at a time, so you are always going up against someone very fresh and ready to run and rebound with a lot of effort," said Giannini.

New Hampshire has lost five of six after beginning conference play 4-2. Maine will look to exploit the Wildcats defense, which allowed 108 points in their last match up and is currently ranked last in the conference.

Maine will face a challenge the following week when No. 1 Hofstra and No. 2 Drexel roll into Orono. Both teams collected wins over the Black Bears earlier in the season, with a scoring margin of five points in each contest. A pair of wins in front of the loyal Alford crowd would be a big boost of confidence for this team. Maine is alone in fourth place in the conference standings at 8-5. Hofstra has lost just twice at 11-2, followed by the Drexel Dragons at 10-3.

Achieving all three of the

goals the team set at the beginning of the season will be tough to accomplish. The Black Bears will need all the right bounces down the stretch to win the regular season title, plus help from a number of teams. Winning 20 games will only be accomplished by finishing the season on a five-game win streak, including upsets against the top two teams in America East.

It will take extraordinary focus and effort to accomplish those goals, but the one goal the team wants most is well within reach.

The sign in the team's locker room says "America East Champions." One team, with exceptionally drive and effort will be able crowned conference champions March 10. Coach Giannini thinks it can be his team.

"We just have to apply the lessons about being focused on the team and valuing improvement," Giannini said. "The tournament championship is very realistic."

Joseph Bethony

Sports Columnist

## Life in the bullpen

With all due respect to Professor Batuski and all those in the astronomy department, I am not convinced that the first day of spring is either on or around March 21. While the astronomers may hold these antiquated notions of Vernal equinoxes, revolutions and rotations determining our seasons, I set forth another hypothesis, that the first day of spring is, in fact, when major league pitchers and catchers report to spring training.

Mired as we are in this blustery purgatory, on Feb. 14 and 15, next week no less, celestial objects like Pedro Martinez and Ivan Rodriguez will emerge from their winter hibernation to have the media revolve around them.

This rite of spring (er ... winter if you believe that Punxsutawney Phil character) is what engulfs my attention these days. I wonder about the hallowed role of bullpen catcher. The man that works for maybe two innings per game and never has to bat, I wonder how I could get that job. Was there a booth at the Career Fair that I missed advertising this, the best job in America?

The minimum salary for a major leaguer in 1997 was reported by the Associated Press to be \$150,000. I did some checking and found out that there was not a player on any roster that made less than \$200,000 on opening day last season. Being conservative and taking the 1997 numbers, yields an average salary of \$12,500 per month and \$925.92 per game. This does not include per diem food money, paid travel or the extensive health and dental benefits.

All of which gives me the feeling that I am entering into the wrong profession. Is it possible for me to make \$925.92 per column? Not unless I morph into Rick Reilly. More specifically, could I make that money without doing anything? No.

If I were a bullpen catcher, I could eat sunflower seeds and hot dogs for seven innings, maybe warm up a couple of pitchers and catch the occasional home-run ball hit into my bullpen. Oh, the possibilities of that down time; I could finish that book I have been working on or set a teammate's foot

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